

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 CU-04 HEW-08 AID-20 NIC-01 DRC-01 /208 W

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P 232215Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7493

C O N F I D E N T I A L L I M A 7746

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PE

SUBJECT: ONE-DAY TEACHERS' STRIKE CALLED FOR OCT 24

SUMMARY: MILGOV AND MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNISTS HAVE LAUNCHED
UNPRECEDENTED CAMPAIGN AGAINST SUTEP FOR PLANNING
NATIONWIDE ONE-DAY TEACHERS' STRIKE.

1. PERU'S PRINCIPAL TEACHERS' UNION, SUTEP, HAS
CALLED OFTEN POSTPONED ONE-DAY NATIONWIDE STRIKE IN ALL
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR OCT 24. STRIKE SUPPORTS LONG-
STANDING TEACHER WAGE, BENEFIT AND UNION RECOGNITION
GRIEVANCES IN ADDITION
TO POLITICAL AIMS OF SECURING RELEASE SEVERAL
TEACHER LEADERS FROM JAIL FOR PREVIOUS STRIKE ACTIVITY,
RETURN OF LEFTIST POLITICIANS PRESENTLY EXILED, AND
UNOFFICIALLY, EMBARRASSING MILGOV.

2. MILGOV AND MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNISTS HAVE MOUNTED
INTENSIVE SUTEP LEADERS, LABLING THEM AND STRIKE
AS COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY AND THREATENING
REPRISALS. LABATT INFORMED THAT SUTEP
LEADERS NOW FEELING EFFECTS THIS PRESSURE, AND THAT
MANY TEACHERS SEEM LIKELY TO OPT FOR ATTENDING
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SCHOOLS WITHOUT TEACHING RATHER THAN STAYING AWAY AND

DEMONSTRATING IN STREET AS MOST DID DURING SUCCESSFUL
ONE-DAY STRIKE LAST JUNE (LIMA 4512) WHEN MILGOV AND
MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNIST PRESSURE NOT AS INTENSE.

3. OTHER NEW ELEMENT
NOT PRESENT LAST JUNE IS
RECENTLY REJUVENATED SECONDARY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
DOMINATED BY APRISTAS AND NON-MOSCOW COMMUNISTS WHICH
PLEDGED TO SUPPORT STRIKE.

4. COMMENT: RADICAL-LEFT DOMINATED SUTEP (WITH
STRONG APRA MINORITY ELEMENTS) CONTINUES TO HAVE
SUPPORT OF CLEAR MAJORITY OF TEACHERS. IF STRIKE
FAILS, FAILURE WILL BE DUE TO FEAR OF MILGOV
REPRISALS RATHER THAN TO ANY SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT FOR
MILGOV BY TEACHERS. RECENT HARD LINE AGAINST
DISSIDENTS COMBINED WITH INTENSIFIED SUPPORT
OF MILGOV BY MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNISTS MAKES REPRISALS
AGAINST SUTEP LEADERS LIKELY REGARDLESS OF SUCCESS
OF STRIKE.
BELCHER

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